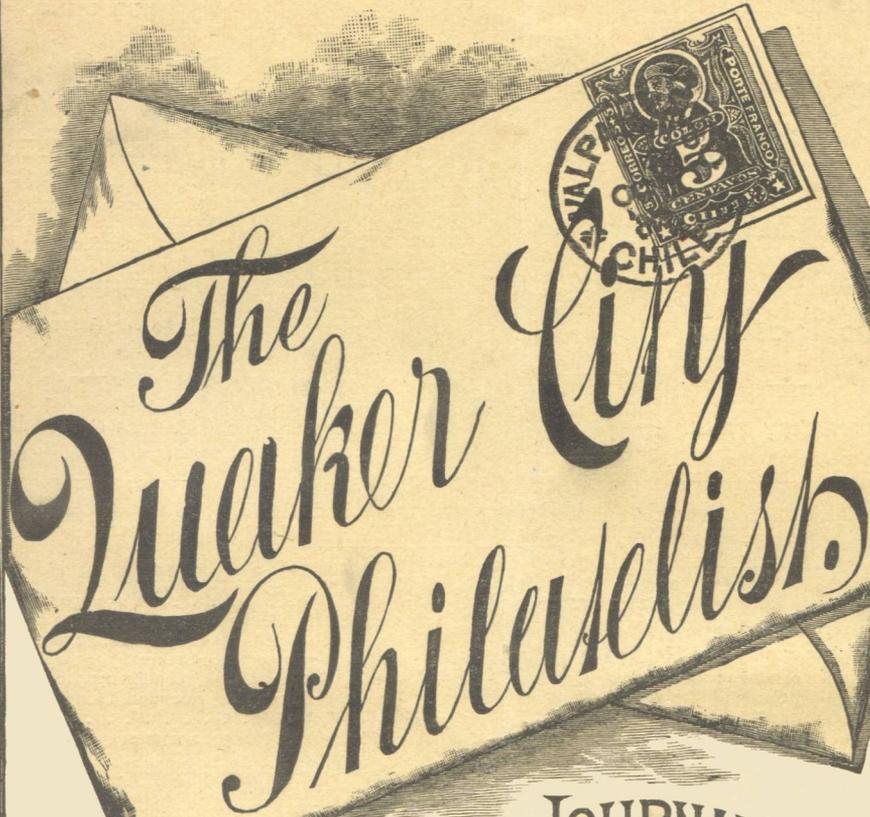


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Philatelist

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS.



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The Quaker City Philatelist

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION, PENNSYLVANIA STAMP COLLECTORS' LEAGUE, AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONALER PHILATELISTEN VEREIN.

VOL. VI.

NOVEMBER, 1891.

No. 11.

THE MULREADY ENVELOPE, AND ITS IMITATIONS, CARICATURES, ETC.

BY MAJOR E. B. EVANS.

(From *Stanley Gibbons', Limited, Monthly Journal.*)

[*Concluded.*]

BEFORE concluding this portion of my paper with a description of a caricature which appeared four years later, and in connection with a very different question, I may give another satirical description of the envelopes issued, which is quoted in "The Life of Sir Rowland Hill" as cut "from the City article of one of the Daily Papers," dated "Friday Evening," no doubt Friday, May 1, 1840. After briefly alluding to the adhesives, it goes on to say:

"The envelopes and half sheets have an engraved surface, extremely fantastic, and not less grotesque. In the centre, at the top, sits Britannia, throwing out her arms, as if in a tempest of fury, at four-winged urchins, intended to represent post-boys, letter-carriers or Mercuries; but who, instead of making use of their wings and flying, appear in the act of striking out or swimming, which would have been natural enough if they had been furnished with fins instead of wings. On the right of Britannia there is a brace of elephants all backed and ready to start when some Hindu, Chinese, Arabic or Turkish merchants, standing quietly by, have closed their bargains and correspondence. The elephants are symbolic of the lightness and rapidity with which Mr. Rowland Hill's penny post is to be carried on, and perhaps also of the power requisite for transporting the £1500 a year to his quarters, which is all he obtains for strutting about the Post-office with his hands in his pockets and nothing to do—like a fish out of water. On the left of Britannia, who looks herself very much like a termagant, there is an agglomeration of native Indians, missionaries, Yankees, and casks of tobacco, with a sprinkling of foliage and the rotten stem of a tree, not forgetting a little terrier dog inquisitively gliding between the legs of the mysterious conclave to see the row. Below, on the left, a couple of heads of the damsel tribe are curiously peering over a valentine just received (scene, Valentine's day), whilst a little girl is pressing the elders for a sight of Cupid, and the heart transfixed with a score of arrows. On the right again stands a dutiful boy reading to his anxious mamma an account of her husband's hapless shipwreck, who with hands clasped is blessing Sir Rowland Hill for the cheap rate at which she gets the intelligence. At the bottom of all is the word 'Postage,' done in small letters upon a large pattern of filagree work. With great propriety the name of the artist is conspicuously placed in one corner, so that the public and posterity may know who is the worthy Oliver of the genius of a Rowland on this triumphant occasion. As may be well imagined it is no common man, for the mighty effort has taxed the powers of the Royal Academy itself, if the engraved announcement of W. Mulready, R. A., in the corner may be credited. Considering the infinite drollery of the whole, the curious assortment of figures and faces, the harmonious *mélange* of elephants, mandarins' tails, Yankee beavers, naked Indians squatted with their hind quarters in front, Cherokee chiefs with feathered tufts shaking missionaries by the hand, casks of Virginia

threatening the heads of young ladies devouring their love letters, and the old woman in the corner, with hands uplifted, blessing Lord Litchfield and his Rowland for the saving grace of 11d. out of the shilling, and valuing her husband's calamity of death as nothing in comparison with such an economy—altogether, it may be said, this is a wondrous combination of pictorial genius, after which Phiz and Cruikshank must hide their diminished heads, for they can hardly be deemed worthy of the inferior grade of associates and aspirants for academic honors. Withal the citizens are rude enough to believe that these graphic embellishments will not go down at the price of 1s. 3d. the dozen for the envelopes; and half or quarter sheets, for the size is somewhat of a mongrel sort, and of 1s. 1d. per dozen for the bits of 'sticking plaster,' with a head upon it which looks something like that of a girl, but nothing of a Queen. As a very tolerable profit may be made out of the odd pence thus charged over the stamp, the penny-postman calculates, no doubt, to make up the deficit in the Post-Office revenue by the sale of these jimcrack pictures for babes and sucklings."

In *Bentley's Miscellany* for June, 1840, appeared "A Row in an Omnibus," afterwards embodied in *The Ingoldsby Legends*, in which both stamps and envelopes are alluded to as follows:

"The Manager rings,
And the Prompter springs
To his side in a jiffy, and with him he brings
A set of those odd-looking envelope things,
Where Britannia (who seems to be crucified) flings
To her right and to her left funny people with wings
Amongst Elephants, Quakers, and Catabaw Kings;
And a taper and wax,
And small Queen's heads in packs,
Which, when notes are too big, you're to stick on their backs."

Thus abused and ridiculed on all sides, it is small wonder that the unfortunate envelopes were soon withdrawn from circulation. They were not quite forgotten, however; for in *Punch*, August 20, 1842, I found another poetical skit: "Dactyls to Mr. Mulready," inscribed on a government envelope.

Two years later, in July, 1844, there was published a second caricature by John Leech, which must have attracted far more notice at the time than did his earlier one of May, 1840, but which appears to be scarcer than the latter now, though it probably had a very wide circulation.

Great excitement was caused by public attention being drawn to the fact, that letters passing through the Post-office, written by, or addressed to, suspected persons, were opened and examined in transit, and all the vials of the public wrath were outpoured upon the devoted head of Sir James Graham, Home Secretary in the ministry of Sir Robert Peel. An onslaught was to be made upon him in *Punch*, and Mark Lemon, the editor, seems to have asked Leech to provide a picture for the occasion. This picture, which took the form of a kind of caricature of the Mulready envelope, curiously enough never appeared in the regular pages of *Punch*, but was printed, with an advertisement, on the inside of the front cover of the number for July 13, 1844, and was also issued separately as a letter-sheet or cover. The reason for this is evidently hinted at in a note scribbled in pencil on the margin of the original sketch of the design, now in the possession of Mr. Algernon Graves (Messrs. Henry Graves & Co., 6 Pall Mall, London), which reads as follows: "Dear Mark—I am much obliged for the ticket. I will go. I have just dotted off the above sketch. Will it do? Of course it is in a rough state—any suggestions you may have to make I should be glad to attend to. You could have it by Monday. Do you know, I think it might be published separately if not in time for the next number. Yours ever, J. L."

No doubt, as the artist anticipated, the engraved block was not ready in time to be used in the body of the number, but it was found practicable to substitute it for some of the advertisements, and the suggestion to publish it separately was acted upon also. The first sketch differed from the finished design, principally in the fact that the

central figure, that of Sir James Graham himself in the position of Britannia, occupied the lower part of the picture; the Snake in the Grass, also bearing the head of Sir James, wriggled along the lower margin, and the Magpie was perched upon the top of his helmet instead of at his side. The figures of Paul Pry being despatched in all directions, peeping through keyholes, peering into letters, looking over the shoulder of the merchant at his office, and the young lady inditing a *billet-doux*, appeared in the original sketch much as they do in the completed drawing. The outline of the latter measures nearly $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; it was printed in *black*, of course, in *Punch*, but the copies sold as letter-sheets were in *blue*, and only in that color as far as I am aware. I have seen two varieties of these, one inscribed at the top, "PUNCH'S ANTI—" "GRAHAM ENVELOPE"—divided thus by the top of the helmet, and the other without this inscription; possibly the latter was the first edition, though a copy I have seen of the former was used in London on the 18th of July, 1844. Each is on a small sheet of yellowish wove paper, measuring $10\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

On the outside of the number of *Punch* in which these are advertised, in the top margin, is, "*This day is published, Punch's Anti-Graham Wafers (16 on the sheet), price 2d. per sheet.—Punch's Anti-Graham Envelopes, price one penny each, or 7s. 6d. per 100.*" Inside again at the top is "Punch's Anti-Graham Wafers and Envelopes." On the left of the design of the envelopes is as follows: "MR. PUNCH has just published a sheet of EMBLEMATICAL DEVICES, with mottoes for Sir James Fouché Graham, which, from the peculiar appropriateness of their sarcasm, backed by the extraordinary adhesiveness of their gum, are adapted to *stick* to the Home Secretary for life. Each sheet contains 16 Stamps, as the Specimen given below, price 2d." And on the right, "MR. PUNCH Has also on Sale, price one Penny each, or 7s. 6d. per 100, a GOOD STINGING ENVELOPE illustrative of Sir J. F. G. despatching his Paul Prys to man in his different relations." Below is the note, "*Eleven of the Envelopes will be sent by post, upon receipt of 1s., or 12 postage stamps; and Seventeen for 1s. 6d. or 18 stamps. Five sheets of the Wafer Stamps will be sent by post for 1s., or 12 postage stamps; and Eleven for 2s. or 24 postage stamps.*" And under this again are represented six varieties of the wafers. These are small oblong devices, with rounded corners, about the size of a penny stamp, each having a design and inscription in white on a colored background in the centre, surrounded by a plain frame, inscribed on the four sides, "PUNCH'S"—"ANTI"—"GRAHAM"—"WAFER." The first bears a pair of handcuffs, and the motto, "I TRUST THAT THIS WILL COME TO HAND." The second an arm with clenched fist, and "SHOULD THIS MEET YOUR EYE." The third a crocodile, with widespread jaws, and "YOU'RE WELCOME TO THE INSIDE." The fourth a lobster, "NOT TO BE RED WITHOUT GETTING INTO HOT WATER." One of this type, printed in *green*, was employed to seal the used copy of the cover to which I have alluded, and this is the only specimen I have seen of the wafers themselves. The next has a beehive and a very large bee, with "TOUCH MY WAX AND YOU'LL FEEL MY STING." And the last a soda-water bottle, with the inscription, "IF OPENED A NOISE WILL FOLLOW."

All through this number of *Punch* are allusions to the same subject. In the centre is a double sheet of small cartoons, one of which is entitled "MERCURY GIVING GRAHAM AN INSIGHT INTO LETTERS," and shows the God of Thieves instructing the Home Secretary how to loosen wafers by means of the steam from a boiling kettle. Another page is occupied by a burlesque report of the proceedings of "GRAHAM'S SECRET COMMITTEE," in which are supposed to be given extracts from the correspondence of "General TOM THUMB, the OJIBBEWAY INDIANS, MLLÉ. DUJAZET, MONS. JULLIEN, MR. EISENBERG, the corn-cutter; HERR DOBLER, SIGNOR BERTOLINI, the eating-house keeper; MONS. VEREY, the pastry-cook; besides others." And further on is a picture of "THE POST-OFFICE PEEP-SHOW," below which is the following:

"NOTICE.

"St. Martin's-le-Grand, July 19th.

"Emperors, Kings, Princes, Grand Dukes, Potentates, Infants, Regents, Barons, and

Foreign Noblemen in general, are respectfully announced that, on and after the present month, the following alterations will take place in the opening of letters :

Letters posted at 9 A. M., opened at 10 A. M.

Letters posted at 10 A. M., opened at 11 A. M.

Letters posted at 12 M., opened at 2 P. M.

Letters posted at 2 P. M., opened at 4 P. M.

Letters posted at 4 P. M., opened at 6 P. M.

“Copies of letters opened will be despatched the same evening, and every information afforded as to the address of suspected parties.

“A Polish and Italian translator is now permanently engaged, and a choice assortment of foreign seals has lately been added to the extensive collection.

“Greater dexterity practiced since the recent disclosures.

“* * * No increase in the prices.”

The success of Leech's former caricature of the same subject probably suggested this to him ; for the Mulready envelopes must have dropped out of common use by the middle of 1844.

[THE END.]

CHRONICLE.

Afghanistan.—*The Monthly Journal* notes 1 ab. blue green on thin pale rose, wove paper ; 2 ab. black on white laid batonné ; 1 ru., purple on pale green, wove batonné.

Bolivar.—It is now said the 10c. is red and the 20c. blue, not as previously reported.

Brazil.—The 10r. journal stamp is now on white paper and there is a 20r. green. We have also seen the 100r. violet of the old type.

British Central Africa.—*The Stamp News* informs us that all of the British South Africa Company's stamps, except the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., have been surcharged “B. C. A.” in black, for use in the countries north of the Zambesi.

British North Borneo.—The 10c. blue is surcharged in black in two lines “6—cents.”

Congo Free State.—They report that 2000 of the 15c. stamps have been surcharged for use as 5c.

Curacao.—The 30c. is surcharged in black in two lines “25—CENT,” covering nearly half of the stamp. It is said the 50c. violet has been similarly treated.

Fiji Islands.—The surcharged 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. has been replaced by a definitive issue. This differs from the current type by having the figures of value in the lower corners with the word “postage” between them. Chocolate brown, perf. 10.

Holland.—*The Weekly Stamp News* has received some of the new stamps with head of the young queen.

Hungary.—The current 5kr. has the figure of value in black instead of color.

Johor.—We have seen the 24c. green surcharged in black in three lines “JOHOR—TWO—CENTS.”

Labuan.—The 8c. is surcharged in black in two lines “6—CENTS.” We understand that hereafter the stamps of North Borneo will be current here.

Madagascar.—There is a 15c. blue on bluish, of the type-set design noted last month and 1c. and 5c. are expected. The 10c. black on lilac has been charged 5c. in black and the 40c. has been surcharged 25c. in blue.

Martinique.—The 2c. is surcharged in three lines, “Timbre—Poste—01c. Martinique” in black.

Mauritius.—The 38c. has been again surcharged, this time across the bottom in black, “TWO CENTS.”

Negri Sembilan.—This is one of the minor States on the Malaccan peninsular and uses the 2c. of Straits Settlements with the name surcharged in two lines in black.

Nossi-Bé.—There are several new surcharges here for use as unpaid letter stamps. The value is in figures in the centre. "Nossi-Bé—chiffre-taxe," in two lines above and "A Percevoir" below. The surcharge is in black, 20 on 1c., 30 on 2c., 50 on 30c., 35 on 4c., 35 on 20c., 1fc. on 35c.

Perak.—The 6c. is surcharged 1c., and the 24c. is surcharged 2c., in quite a number of different types.

Philippine Islands.—The 5c. is now olive brown and the 20c. salmon.

Reunion Islands.—The current stamps are surcharged in black diagonally "RE-UNION."

Salvador.—They seem to have run short of 5c. stamps in this republic, and have made use of the 3c. stamps with a suitable surcharge.

Uruguay.—The 5c. violet of 1886 has come into use again. It is surcharged diagonally in red in two lines, "Provisorio—1891." We hear already of varieties, such as "ovisorio—91," "isorio—1," "orio," and "orio—1891."

THE GERMAN POSTAL CARDS.

BY WILLIAM HIRSH.

ON that side of the German postal cards intended for the address, you will find in the right-hand lower corner a few small numbers and letters, which the average man does not notice at all, and of those that do notice them, few only know their meaning. For instance, it says there, 391 G.; that means that the pasteboard used for the card was delivered in the third month—that is March, of the year 1891, and was taken from the seventh lot delivered in March; so the first number means the month, the second and third the year, and the letter according to its place in the alphabet, the number of the delivery made during that month. But not alone the date and number of the delivery can be seen, but the one initiated into this secret can find out also the name of the manufacturer or contractor of the pasteboard. This latter can be learned by examining closely the line intended for the street and house number, namely: in this line composed of dots there is always one dot missing, and according to the place of the space and the number of the separated dots, the official conversed in these things can easily tell you the name of the purveying firm. This measure was introduced mainly for the reason to enable the department to readily distinguish the origin of the pasteboard, in case it should prove defective, especially in regard to the strength and consistency of the size, *i. e.*, glue, contained in the composition.

At present about nine factories are participating in the manufacture of the pasteboard, and considering the enormous quantities printed daily on the presses of the Imperial Printing Establishment, it might happen very easily that a part of the pasteboard is not as required, but printed nevertheless. The composition of the pasteboard, which is precisely described by the authorities, is very seldom cause for complaint, and the manufacturers also take care to allow the card to be reasonably extended and stretched, and also to prevent it as much as possible from being easily torn. But as far as the above-mentioned quality of the contents of glue in the card is concerned, small sample lots do not always suffice to guarantee for the solidity of the others, and as the cards are very liable to change under the influence of storage and weather, it is absolutely necessary to know the origin of every card; certainly our Post-office Department would profit if it would take the accuracy and spirit of contrivance of their German brethren as a good example for imitation.

Vindin's Philatelic Monthly cautions collectors against the first issue four pence orange Tasmania stamps. It says: "They have been forged so cleverly that they are not easily distinguished at a glance, but as it happens, they are all of one type and that a type which does not exist on the original sheets. This is one of the most dangerous swindles we have seen for years."

NOTES FROM THE METROPOLIS.

BY ALVAH DAVISON.

THE article in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* for September, on the New South Wales stamps of 1851-1854, with laureated head of Queen, and republished on this side in the October *Post-Office*, has created great consternation among many of New York's collectors, more than one of whom is the possessor of some of the stamps mentioned. One prominent philatelist here paid one hundred and five pounds, or about five hundred dollars for, I believe, a sheet of each of the series, and others paid like high sums for specimens of these supposed-to-be great rarities, and for them to now find that the stamps are either not as scarce as was at first thought, or that their specimens are simply reprints, is, to put it mildly, somewhat irritating. This episode is a sensation, and a big one at that, and further developments in the case will be awaited with great interest by the holders of these stamps, many of whom did not buy from Stanley Gibbons, and who are therefore in great doubt as to whether they can obtain any satisfaction, should these stamps be proven as simply reprints.

The members of the American Philatelic Association are no doubt awaiting news regarding the progress of incorporation, this matter having been decided on at the last Convention, and left with the President to put through. The following extract from a letter received from President Tiffany will show what is being done:

"It (centralization) seems to present itself at every turn, and it is just now giving me and the attorney, whom I am consulting in regard to incorporation, considerable trouble, and it is quite difficult, even under so liberal a statute as that of the State of West Virginia, to arrange details in such a way as to avoid the jealousy of what is called centralization. * * * * * You may say to inquirers that we have devised means to cover nearly every point with regard to the incorporation, and that it is probable we shall be in condition to apply for a charter very shortly."

At the banquet of the Staten Island Philatelic Society, held at Stapleton, on October 14, there was a larger number of collectors present than at any similar gathering of local societies. The attendance of gentlemen was about forty-five, and none but the Staten Island Society could get such a crowd together. There are indications that another banquet will materialize in the near future to celebrate an anniversary.

Mr. J. J. Casey held an auction sale of a Jersey collection on the afternoon of October 17, at Leavitt's rooms. It consisted mainly of United States stamps, with some cardboard proofs. Thirty-three lots of philatelic literature were sold for a song, Volume i of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, with a lot of others, bringing only forty cents. The attendance was not large, and the general run of prices was low, although some specimens went at good figures. Here are a few lots:

United States, 1868, 3 cents, grill all over back	\$5 75
" " 1869, 90 cents, unused	6 25
" " Justice Department, set, 1 and 15, used	7 75
" " State Department, unused	5 60
" " State Department, \$2, unused	3 30
" " 1865, newspaper set, unused	2 60
" " 1857, each value in blocks of four; set unused, thirty-two stamps	23 00

Messrs. Deats and Sterling held an exhibition of stamps at the Inter-State Fair at Trenton, N. J., September 28 to October 2, for which they were awarded nine first and one second prize. Among the visitors at the fair they distributed fifty thousand liquor stamps.

A well-known collector in this city has been trying for some time to organize a stamp trust among the large dealers, but with what success I am unable to say. I have very grave doubts about such a combination ever being effected, and yet they say it is the unexpected which always happens.

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PHILATELIC NOTES.

BY BONUMITA.

A WASHINGTON special to the *New York Herald* says Postmaster-General Wanamaker is collecting data for his annual report to Congress, the features of which will be similar to those of last year.

During the past year he has been making experiments in one or two branches of the service, and he is likely to make a special point for their development.

The postal-telegraph scheme is not dead, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Wanamaker purposes asking a Democratic House to look into it and investigate the arguments and figures he is now preparing in its support. Much the same arguments will be used with the present Congress as those which proved ineffectual with the last.

The same may be said of the Postal Savings Bank. Mr. Wanamaker is thoroughly convinced that one of the most beneficial additions to the present postal service would be the establishment of savings banks at post-offices.

His experience and the reports from the country generally during the last year convince him more thoroughly than ever of its practicability. The demand for such institutions in farming districts and small villages where there are no banks has been growing steadily. He will recommend that there be no more than one bank for every ten miles of area, and that the interest paid on deposits be one-half of one per cent. lower than that paid by private bankers.

With regard to penny postage, the Postmaster-General is not so enthusiastic as he was. While in his recommendations he will not recede from the position taken in his former reports, he will not lay special stress on this radical change.

The two principal points that will be dwelt on in Mr. Wanamaker's recommendations are the extension of the free-delivery system and the improvement of the inspection services.

THOMAS A. LEAVITT, *alias* Squantum Stamp Co., *alias* Arthur T. Parker, of Boston, Mass., charged with fraudulent use of mails, has plead guilty and has been sentenced to pay a fine of \$30 and costs, amounting probably to about \$200. First complaint against him was made to Chief Inspector Evans, in the last part of February, by Henry M. Sperry, of Hartford, Conn. After investigation the case was given to Inspector Bario, and as a result he was arrested in July, arraigned before the United States Commissioner and held over for trial in October. Mail was received by Leavitt at two places, 447 Broadway, South Boston, and 9 Burroughs Place, Boston, it being at the latter address that he was arrested. His scheme was an old one. He sent for stamps as Arthur T. Parker, referring to the Squantum Stamp Co., who, when inquired of, wrote that "Our books show that Mr. Parker has traded to the amount of about \$19 with us and has always acted very upright and honest." Up to within a short time of his trial he declared his innocence, but at last gave in and acknowledged his guilt. Stamps found in his possession and claimed by dealers were returned to them. It was a costly lesson for the young man, but one that will remain with him through life.

WHILE on this subject we desire to say a few words further. If dealers would only be "down" on frauds as soon as they ascertain that they are such, instead of letting the matter drift along until there is no chance of obtaining payment, we believe that there would be many less thefts of stamps committed. The only proper way to do is to report the case at once to some Post-office Inspector (if the fraud is in New England address Boston; if in the Atlantic States, New York or Philadelphia, etc., always sending to the largest city in the section). The officials will be generally found to be eager and willing to help you. If you have the fraud's letters and he is caught, there is almost a certainty of his conviction. The Government prosecutes the offender, there being no cost to the dealer; remembering the case in Chicago, the case in Iowa where "E. Von Holfert" was nearly caught and others, I think you will agree with us as to the right way to do the work. If it were not for the inexperienced dealers who send stamps to anybody and everybody, the fraud business would be much less profitable.

THE *New York World* of Sunday, October 18, published an illustrated article on "Stamps," from the pen of General A. D. Hazen, the Third Assistant Postmaster-General for a number of years. The illustrations consist of about a dozen cuts of locals and Confederate locals. The article contains several statements of interest which we reprint: He says: "The Government gets the postal cards at a cost of thirty-five cents per thousand, or at the rate of thirty for a cent. * * * The ordinary postage stamps cost a little more than seven cents a thousand. * * * There is not the same scope for the engraver in the making of the stamped envelopes as there is in the postage stamps. There is an art in postage stamps, and the United States has stood high among the engravers of the world for years as to the beauty and finish of its stamps. The stamp collectors of the world now number hundreds of thousands, and every stamp is scrutinized in its minutest details. Our stamps are sent abroad in large numbers, and many people know America as much by its postage stamps as by anything else. In engraving a stamp the work is largely done in accordance with the colors in which the stamp is to be printed. If the stamp is to be of a dark green it will need a different sort of engraving from what it would receive were the color to be brown or red. This can be easily seen by looking at different stamps and by noting the bad effects which have been produced when a color has been changed from the one which was originally adopted when the engraving was made.

"This, it seems to me, was the trouble with the green stamp which has just gone out of use. The engraving was not adapted to the color. The green three-cent stamp was a work of fine art, and if you will take the old green three and compare it with the

late green two, you will see what I mean by engraving in accordance with color. In the green three-cent stamp the background of the oval is heavily shaded and the head stands out in strong relief. In the two-cent stamp the background is lighter, and this gives the stamp a lack of strong contrast, and makes it look flat and tame."

CURRENT TOPICS.

BY E. P. NEWCOMER.

The Galveston Philatelic Association, a society with over two hundred members and in a very prosperous condition, has chosen the *Spy-Glass*, of Arkansas City, Kans., as their official journal. This magazine is only in its second number and although not devoted entirely to philately, deserves success. It contains twenty pages and cover.

The following is taken from an article in a recent number of the *Omaha Bee*, entitled, "The Stamp Collecting Fad," and we give it as a brilliant idea:

"It is quite probable that some wealthy philatelist, recognizing the educational character of the study, which can be made a special factor in imparting a knowledge of the domestic history, the physical geography and the products and commerce of every country that issues a postage stamp, may sometime bequeath money enough to establish a professorship of philately in one of our universities."

From the same clipping we learn that Mr. T. G. Sanders, of Council Bluffs, Ia., and a member of the Omaha Philatelic Society, is the possessor of one of the famous "Connel" stamps.

We are not in the habit of complaining about our standard catalogues, and, in fact, don't remember that we ever have. American philatelists have reason to be proud of our catalogues. We only wish to make a suggestion which we know would be warmly welcomed by all collectors. A list of the newspaper wrappers, postal cards and the different series of letter sheets issued by the United States should be catalogued. There is no reason why every American collector should not have the United States post-cards, wrappers and letter sheets in his collection complete, as so few have been issued. All minor varieties of medicine and match stamps are listed, while these articles, which have done postal service, are left out. It is true, Sterling gives them in his catalogue, but that is not up to date. Collectors will await with interest this new improvement in our standard catalogues.

There is talk of a Kansas Philatelic Association. If this should catch the eye of any collector residing in Kansas, send your name as a charter member to Roy F. Greene, 303 North Seventh street, Arkansas City, Kans. Mr. Greene is very enthusiastic and thinks a State society can be organized without much trouble. He has had application blanks and a "call" printed at his own expense.

The free-delivery experiment in small towns is not producing the best pecuniary results. It has been in operation since February in forty-eight towns of this class and in only seven of them has the increase in postal receipts exceeded the cost of the same. As a business enterprise it cannot be called successful; but why must it be regarded as a business enterprise? Why must one department of the Government be made self-sustaining, at whatever inconvenience to the people, while all the others are sustained by the National Treasury? Above all, why must each branch of that department be self-sustaining irrespective of the others? A close application of that rule would shut up every post-office that does not pay its own expenses and deprive a large proportion of the population of all mail facilities.

THE undersigned committee do cordially invite all honest stamp collectors of their peninsula, to join the Michigan Philatelic Society, which will have all the features of the A. P. A., etc., and will be in full operation by November 20. Every effort will be put forth to make the Society a model one. All wishing to join should send their names to one of the following parties.

HENRY McCONNEL, Clarion, Mich.

A. H. CRITTENDEN, Detroit, Mich.

C. J. VANVALKENBURG, Manchester, Mich.

Committee of Arrangements.

—THE—
Western Philatelic Union.

—Organized April 15, 1889—

President, LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELO, Fort Davis, Tex.
 Vice-President, BREWSTER COX KENYON, Long Beach, Cal.
 Secretary and Treasurer, A. P. HOSMER, 168 LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill.
 Exchange Superintendent, FRANK KENIG, 122 Kearny St., San Francisco, Cal.
 Purchasing Agent, G. FOLTE, 526 California St., San Francisco, Cal.
 Official Editor, MILLARD F. WALTON, Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.

Any Philatelist desiring membership application blanks, can have them sent post-paid, by addressing the Secretary. All members are entitled to vote, irrespective of age.

Members desirous of participating in the Exchange Department should apply to the Superintendent to be placed on circuits.

The Exchange Department is for the use of members only. Blank Exchange Sheets can be had of the Superintendent at five cents each. A charge of five per cent. made on all sales.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

NEW MEMBERS.

- No. 104. L. D. Smith, 235 LaFayette street, Ionia, Mich.
 No. 105. E. O. Gerberding, Hueneme, Venturo county, Cal.
 No. 106. J. H. Makins, 506 Market street, San Francisco, Cal.

APPLICATIONS.

- W. P. Agee, Washington, Ark.; References, F. N. Mossoth, Jr., A. P. Hosmer.
 E. C. Patton, 98 State street, Salem, Oreg.; References, Harry E. Dore, L. D. Walker.
 B. V. Jenkins, 1224 N. Charles street, Baltimore, Md.; References, B. S. Ross, A. P. Hosmer.
 Roswell H. Buckingham, 806 Noble street, Chicago, Ill.; References, A. P. Hosmer, W. G. Jerrems, Jr.
 J. S. Smith, Oak Park, Ill.; References, F. T. Hoyt, Otto Scheible.

CHANGES IN ADDRESS.

- J. H. Larson, 61 Dearborn avenue, Chicago, Ill.
 Captain J. E. Pilcher, Fort Ringgold, Tex.
 E. E. Lambert, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

RESIGNATION.

P. M. Wolsieffer.

Much work has been done during the month past in all the departments, and I am happy to state that good results are already apparent.

If the good work continues, as I have every reason to think it will, the goal of our ambition is not far off.

The amount of correspondence received, in regard to the working of the W. P. U., is something remarkable, coming mostly from the conservative collectors who, for various reasons, do not care to affiliate with any society.

I am ready at all times to answer any inquiries in regard to the Society, and to describe the workings of each department in case same has not been clearly shown in these columns.

My attention has been called to several articles which have lately appeared in various journals concerning the *national* character of the W. P. U.; the most exhaustive one being published in the *Post-Office* for September.

The cause of all this is apparent on reading a letter published therein, in which the author, seeing no benefit (as he claims) in joining the W. P. U., calls for the formation of an "Eastern Society."

Now, as the primary objects of a society are to facilitate the exchanging of specimens, to issue a journal for its members, to procure new issues at face value, etc., we would like to ask, How can an Eastern or, in fact, any society confer upon collectors these benefits superior to the W. P. U.?

All our departments are running in excellent shape, to the general satisfaction of those who have participated therein, which is more than can be said of certain other societies during the past two years.

The W. P. U. distributes its benefits to its members, impartially, all being treated alike, whether they reside in the East or West, and its officers reside in different sections of the country.

These few facts, we think, are sufficient to convince most collectors as to the national character of our Society, and that as many benefits can be obtained by joining the W. P. U. as by affiliating with other societies, whether located in the North, South, East or West.

If we are to believe the latter portion of the article above referred to, the "W. P. U. is too small to accomplish much results, etc."!! With our record for the past nine months in view, I would kindly ask collectors to take this assertion *cum grano salis*. At the same time we are gently reminded of a combination with what is known as the parent organization!!

All this reads very well on paper, but looking at it from a business standpoint, we can truly say, "It cannot be done."

Under the guidance of its present complement of officers, the W. P. U. is perfectly capable of navigating the troubled philatelic sea *alone*, and when we arrive at our journey's end, may we rest secure in the thought of having made the most of every opportunity offered us.

I trust members will pardon the slight digression from the usual routine report, as I am obliged, on account of numerous letters recently received, to define more fully the general character of the W. P. U., to prospective members, whose opinions have been somewhat changed on account of the articles before mentioned.

CHICAGO, ILL., October 31, 1891. A. P. HOSMER, *Secretary and Treasurer*.

CHICAGO BRANCH, No. 1.

The third advertised sale of the Branch took place on October 8, at the Auditorium, immediately following the regular meeting, which was more largely attended than any meeting held by the Society.

Among those present, either as members or visitors, were Messrs. Massoth, Ross, Ferris, Dahlberg, Pierce, Hoyt, Larson, Dilg, Hosmer, Adams, Cuttlow, Dr. Heath, Grabow, Leland, Parsons and Jerrems.

The sale proved very successful, many of the lots bringing very good prices.

The next sale will take place November 27, catalogues of which will soon be ready.

Among the recent visitors to Chicago during the past month was Dr. Heath, of Monroe, Mich., who spent several days here seeing the sights, in company with W. P. U. members. We trust that the doctor will again favor us with a visit at an early date.

Branch 1 is still adding to its list of members, and there are still more to come; there

is a brilliant future in store for the local Society, and we propose to go ahead with the good work so successfully begun.

The retirement of P. M. Wolsieffer from the ranks of philatelists is one of the surprises of the week. Mr. Wolsieffer has been an untiring worker in the cause of philately for the past six years, sparing neither time nor expense in furthering the good cause. Most of his efforts have been in behalf of the Chicago Philatelic Society, and to him, perhaps, more than to any other member is due its past and present enviable record. Mr. Wolsieffer has the best wishes of all W. P. U. members and we trust that his retirement is but temporary.

Mr. J. A. Fowler, one of the leading collectors of Toronto, paid a short visit to Chicago some time since. Although on a purely business trip, Mr. Fowler called on several of the W. P. U. members, who endeavored as much as possible to make his visit a pleasant one.

Mr. Ferris, Librarian of the local branch, reports that the library is being augmented by many volumes and papers. In this connection I would state that if members have any papers that they care to donate to the branch, they will be gladly accepted.

The second sale of the S. B. Bradt Co. took place October 20. My remarks in regard to prices realized at the first sale, hold good for the present sale. I was unable to purchase much that was desirable for those who entrusted their bids to me, on account of the bids held by the company; in spite of this, however, I was fortunate enough to secure a few bargains for my customers.

A. P. HOSMER, *Local Secretary.*

CHICAGO, ILL., October 31, 1891.

REPORT OF PURCHASING AGENT OF W. P. U.

Since my last report I have received the following stamps, etc., which I shall soon distribute, together with those of former reports:

Brazil, postage due 50, 200 reis.....	13½c.
Brazil, journal, 100 reis.....	6½c.
Luxemburg, 10c., 25c.....	7c.
New South Wales, 7½d., 12½d.....	41c.
New South Wales, postal card, 2d.....	6c.
Victoria, postage due, 4d., 5d., 10d., 1s., 5s.....	\$2 37

I have also received several new members to my department: F. Koenig, San Francisco; A. D. Dunning, Los Angeles; Lieutenant Partello, St. Augustine, Fla.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 1, 1891.

G. FOLTE, *Purchasing Agent.*



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- British Guiana Prov., complete. 1c. on \$1, 1c. on \$2, 1c. on \$3 and 1c. on \$4 65c.
- Honduras, 1878, complete 30c.
- The four sets complete, \$1.40.

Guaranteed genuine and in good condition. The first three persons answering this ad., and remitting \$1 or over, can select from my approval sheets at 35 per cent. commission, 50c. worth free. Exchange desired with Collectors.

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- " 6p. lake, unused 24c.
- " 1sh. lake, unused 45c.
- 1866, 12c. pink, unused 20c.
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 Please mention this paper when buying.

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	Cat. Price.	My Price.
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U. S., 1861, 12c. black	15	12
" 24c. black	15	12
" 1866, 24c. mauve	25	20
" 1868, 12c. black, grill	30	22
Argentina, 1890, 40c. olive	25	12
" 60c. blue	20	20
Hayti, 1891, 2c. on 3c. blue	20	10
" 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7c., used, per set	25	25
Argentina, 1890, 5c. on 8c. env	15	15
* " same entire env	20	20
*Brazil, 10c. yellow, newsp	75	40
* " 1880, 20c. yellow, newsp	50	30
Cape Verde, 1886, 20c. lilac	30	20
" 30c. orange	25	25
Canada, 1879, official seal, origi- nal gum	2 50	1 25
Jamaica, 3d. revenue, used postally,	75	30
Portugal, 1884, 100c. black	1 00	50
*Russia, 1890, 1r.	1 00	60
* ROUMANIA, 1891, Jubilee Sets, complete, only a few sets left	1 00	1 00
*Roumania, 1890, 1½, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 25b.	29	20
* " 1881, 50b. brown, unpd,	20	16
* " 60b. "	25	20
* " 1889, 5b. green, yell. p.	10	10
* " 1890, 10b. "	6	4
* " 30b. "	15	11
*Royal Mail Co., 1875, 10c. rose	1 00	1 00
*Hong Kong, 1891, 7c. on 10c. green <i>Hong Kong, 1891, Jubilee, 2c. rose, used, very rare</i>	20	1 00
*N. South Wales, 1890, 5d. gr'n, o.s.	1 00	35
* " 1891, 2½ d. bl., o.s.	15	15
Paraguay, official, 1891, 1c. green	15	15
" 2c. vermil.	15	15
St. Pierre Miquelon, 1891, 15c. on 30c. brown, used	20	20
St. Pierre Miquelon, 1891, 15c. on 40c., used	25	25
*Br. Honduras, 1891, 2c. red	5	5
* " " 3c. brown.	6	6
* " " 6c. blue.	12	12
* " " 12c. lilac and green	22	22
* " " 24c. yel'w and blue	45	45
*Complete sets only	80	80
Leeward Island, 1890, 6d. violet.	25	10
Macao, 1887, 5c. green and red	15	10
" 10c. "	25	18
" 40c. "	60	40
Set of 3 only	60	60

Ecuador.

Surcharged *official in black.*

	Cat. Price.	My Price.
1886, 1c. brown		\$0 10
2c. lake		10
5c. blue		10
10c. orange.		10
20c. slate.		15
50c. green		40
1887, 1c. green.		10
2c. lake		10
5c. blue		10
80c. gray.		60
Complete set of 10 varieties		1 50

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1885, 1c. blue (40)		20
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5c. vermilion (42)	1 00	40
10c. orange (43)	1 00	40
20c. violet (49)	1 00	40
50c. green (44)	50	25
1 peso brown		50
1886-7, 1c. blue (45)	50	20
2c. bistre (46)	50	20
4c. brown (54)	35	20
10c. orange (48)		40
1 peso green (56)	1 25	50
1c. slate (52)	25	8
2c. lake (53)	25	8
4c. brown (59)	35	10
10c. orange (55)	40	15
1 peso (60)		50

Complete set of these very rare revenues used for postage, 17 varieties. Catalogue price over \$10 for only \$4 net. The two sets of Ecuador of 28 varieties, Catalogue price over \$15, for only \$5 net.

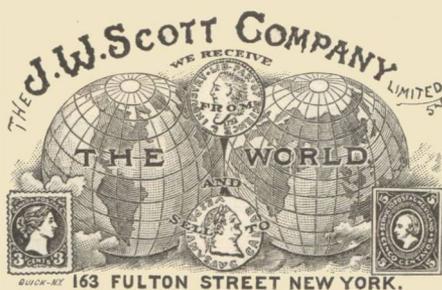
Ecuador. *Cut Envelopes.*

1887, 5c. white, p	15	8
5c. yellow, p	10	6
5c. orange, p	10	6
5c. white, p	10	6
5c. yellow, p	10	6
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5c. blue, p	10	6

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Brazil Newspaper Stamps, 1889, 10r. yellow	\$o 10
Philippine Islands, 1872, 25c. violet.	10
" " " 1p. bistre	25
" " " 1882, 6 2-8 green.	5
" " " 20c. on 25om. blue, black and red	1 00
Salvador, 1890, set	25

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It will contain over 350 pages.

It will be better printed than ever before.

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